14th February 1955]

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" My answer is based on the report I have obtained from the Chief Engineer which is based on the report of the Collector of South Kanara. If the hon. Member maintains that the damage has been greater than what I have stated then I have again to refer the matter to them for report. That is all I can do at present."

*Collection of levies in public markets*

* 695 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued instructions to municipalities that collection of levies in all public markets should be farmed out to private contractors instead of being collected departmentally; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) & (b) No such general instructions have been issued to municipal councils."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" திருச்சி நகர சபை தன்னுடைய பிரதேசத்திலுள்ள மார்க்கெட்டை காண்டிராக்டுக்கு விடாமல் தாங்களே வரி வசூலிக்கும் அதிகாரத்தை எடுத்துகொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று 1954-ம் வருஷம் மார்ச்சு மாதத்தில் ஒரு தீர்மானத்தை நிறைவேற்றியிருந்தும் அந்தத் தீர்மானத்தை சர்க்கார் நிராகரித்துவிட்டு, காண்டிராக்டுக்கே விடவேண்டுமென்று உத்திரவு போட்டார்களா, இல்லையா ?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" திருச்சி நகர சபையினுடைய நடத்தையில் சில தவறுகள் ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டதன் காரணமாக சர்க்கார் அவர்களுடைய உத்திரவை ரத்து செய்யச்சொல்லி விட்டு மறுபடியும் காண்டிராக்டுக்கே விடவேண்டுமென்று உத்திரவு போட்டார்கள்."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I will take ten more minutes and finish all the remaining questions."

*Local Development Works for Malabar and South Kanara*

* 696 Q.—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) how many schemes have been submitted by the State Government to the Planning Commission under the Local Development Works programme;

(b) how many of them have been approved; and

(c) the schemes approved for Malabar and South Kanara districts?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Schemes 12 noon.
under the Local Development Works programme are sanctioned by the Collectors and the Board of Revenue and are not forwarded to the Planning Commission for approval.

[14th February 1955

"(*b*) 1,346 works have been approved for the entire State.
"(*c*) Particulars[a] are placed on the table of the House."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—"May I know what is the criterion adopted by the Government when they recommend particular schemes for particular areas?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"Firstly the Government will have to satisfy themselves whether a scheme is a feasible one and it will be useful to the public. Secondly, they have to satisfy themselves whether the expected contribution of the people would be forthcoming."

SRI S. S. KOLKEBAIL :—"May I know how much amount was allotted to South Kanara in the year 1953–54 and the amount spent therefrom?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"117 works at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,12,400 have been included in the programme."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—"Most of the villagers, on account of poverty and backwardness, are unable to pay 50 per cent of the contribution towards the cost of the scheme and consequently the scheme has to be dropped. Therefore, in such cases will the Government consider it desirable to reduce the quantum of contribution of the people to the minimum possible?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"It is not possible to reduce the quantum of contribution. Other areas are only too eager to take advantage of this offer by the Government under the Planning programme. If people could not contribute by way of cash they could contribute by way of labour. They could undertake the work and without the need to pay from the purse, they could be able even to complete it."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—"The Hon. Minister is fully aware that most of the sanctioned works related to communications. Since all the special staff that was required did not come in time—it was only last month they had been posted there—many of the schemes that have been sanctioned, are not likely to be completed before the end of March. In view of these peculiar circumstances, will the Government see that the funds allotted to these schemes are not allowed to lapse when further allotments are made during the next year for Local Development Works in the district?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"There is no question of lapsing of the amount allotted for the purpose. But if any particular district is not likely to spend the full amount allotted, the expected savings would be transferred to the other districts which are prepared to spend it. For the next year necessary funds would be available for completing the works."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 494–501 infra.

14th February 1955]

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Of the works now sanctioned, how many were taken up for execution and how many were completed? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" For Malabar 117 schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 6,64,600 were sanctioned during 1953–54 and another 144 works at an estimated cost of Rs. 8,41,400 were also sanctioned for 1954–55. I do not have with me the information regarding the exact number of works that have been completed."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Sir, the people in the fully developed areas are able to contribute half the quantum of contribution very easily but in the backward areas the people are not able to contribute it. Even the other half which the Government have to contribute towards the scheme will be helpful to the people in the backward areas. Therefore, will the Government consider this aspect of the question and reduce the quantum of contribution that is expected of the people in the backward areas? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to tell the hon. Member that it is the so-called backward area which evinces greater enthusiasm and offers better co-operation than the so-called forward area."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" Sir, on account of the most adamant and unreasonable attitude taken up by one or two landholders in not giving their consent to surrender their lands for the road work in South Kanara—though a large number of them have agreed to surrender the same—it is held up now. In such cases, will the Government, in the interest of providing such road facilities, consider the desirability of issuing instructions to the officials concerned to enter upon the lands of such adamant and unreasonable persons and acquire them at the cost of the villagers? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Is the hon. Member putting the question or making a speech? "

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" In such cases, will the Government, in the interest of providing such road facilities to the villagers consider the desirability of issuing instructions to the officials concerned to acquire the lands of such adamant and unreasonable persons at the cost of the villagers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Cases like this have been brought to the notice of the Government and I can assure the hon. Member that the Government have been examining the question, what expeditious steps they can take within the four corners of the law and even make new laws so as to get over this difficulty."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The questions Nos. 697 and 698 may be taken up together."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes, they may be taken up together."